

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 8158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECE, CSCE

SUBJECT: ECE WESTERN CAUCUS MEETING OCT 15- CONIDERATION
OF SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR CONGRESSES ON
ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY

1. ECE WESTERN CAUCUS MEETINT OCT 15, 1976, DISCUSSED
(A) SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT
AND ENERGY, AND (B) WESTERN CAUSUS PROCEDURES. ITEM
(B) REPORTED SEPTTEL.

2. MEETING OPENED BY CHAIRMAN AMB KASTOFF (DENMARK) WHO
REPORTED ON RECENT CONVERSATION WITH ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
STANOVNIK. STANOVNIK HAD ADVISED KASTOFF OF HIGH LEVEL
GROUP MEETING IN MOSCOW ON FOLLOW-UP TO SOVIET CONGRESSES
PROPOSAL (SO-CALLED "KIRILLIN GROUP" HEADED BY V.A.
KIRILLIN, CHAIRMAN STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY).
GROUP HAD REPORTEDLY FINISHED WORK AND USSR WAS CONSULTING
WITH OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS RE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.
STANOVNIK HAD ALSO ADVISED KASTOFF RE HIS RECENT VISITS
TO BUCHAREST AND BUDAPEST. HE SAID ROMANIANS NOW FAVOR
SOVIET PROPOSAL AND HUNGARIANS FAVOR KEEPING CONGRRSSES
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WITHIN ECE. (STANOVNIK COMMENTS ON THESE MATTERS IN

MEETING OCT 15 WITH OFFICERS FROM MISSION AND
STATE/EUR/RPE REPORTED SEPTEL).

3. CAUCUS DISCUSSION REVEALED DIFFERENCE AMONG
EC-NINE ON HOW WEST SHOULD PROCEED RE SOVIET PROPOSAL.
NETHERLANDS (OSTENSIBLY SPEAKING FOR EC-NINE) AND
FRANCE SAID WESTERN COUNTRIES SHOULD BE PREPARED TO
TAKE STAND AT 32ND SESSION SO MATTER COULD BE KEPT
WITHIN ECE AND STANOVNIK COULD MAKE DEFINITIVE REPORT
TO BELGRADE CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE. UK AND ITALY,
HOWEVER, FELT OPTION TO CARRY MATTER OVER TO BELGRADE
SHOULD NOT BE FORECLOSED, WITH LATTER EMPHASIZING NEED
FOR AGREEMENT AT 32ND SESSION ON TACTICS RATHER THAN
FINAL POSITION ON CONGRESSES. DENMARK STRESSED
IMPOSSIBILITY OF ARRIVING AT POSITION PENDING RECEIPT
OF FURTHER DETAILS, WHILE FINLAND AND SWITZERLAND
SUGGESTED DISCUSSION IN PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF
TECHNICAL ASPECTS.

4. US REITERATED ITS POSITION SET FORTH IN STATE
153188, 173314 AND 210010. WITH REFERENCE TO LINK
BETWEEN DECISIONS B(XXXI) AND D(XXXI), US NOTED
DISAPPOINTMENT THAT USSR HAD RESISTED US PROPOSAL
IN JUNE 1976 MEETING OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISERS
FOR SYMPOSIUM BRINGING TOGETHER YOUNGER SCIENTISTS
FOR EAST AND WEST AS WELL AS US PROPOSAL IN
MAY 1976 PREPARATORY
MEETING FOR FOURTH SEMINAR ON EAST-WEST TRADE
PROMOTION, MARKETING AND BUSINESS CONTACTS FOR AGENDA
ITEM ON MARKET RESEARCH. US NOTED THAT BOTH OF
THESE PROPOSALS RELATED TO IMPLEMENTATION OF FINAL ACT AND
DECISION D(XXXI) AND SOVIET ACTION WAS NOT SEEN BY
US AS INDICATION OF SOVIET INTENT TO IMPLEMENT
THAT DECISION FULLY. US ALSO CAUTIONED AGAINST
GOING BEYOND DECISION B(XXXI) IN PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY
BODIES BY DISCUSSING POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION
BY CONGRESSES.

5. FINLAND ANNOUNCED THAT AFTER EXAMINATION
OF SOVIET PROPOSAL IN LIGHT OF DECISION B(XXXI) IT WOULD NOW
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NOW BE PREPARED TO OFFER A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE PREPARATION
AND CONVENING OF AN ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE AND WAS
STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF SO STATING IN A LETTER TO
STANOVNIK. (FINNISH REP SAID PRIVATELY
THAT HE EXPECTED SUCH LETTER WOULD BE SENT BEFORE END
OF YEAR.) ITALIAN DEL SAID HE THOUGHT USSR WOULD SUBMIT
DOCUMENT AS 32ND SESSION RE PROPOSED ENERGY CONFERENCE
(WHICH IT HAS OFFERED TO HOST IN 1977).

6. CAUCUS ALSO DISCUSSED BRIEFLY QUESTION OF WHETHER ECE REPORT TO BELGRADE ON ITS ROLE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF CSCE FINAL ACT SHOULD BE PREPARED BY COMMISSION ITSELF, COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, OR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. WHILE FRANCE SUGGESTED COMMISSION CHAIRMAN APPOINT CONTACT FGROUPO FOR THIS PURPOSE, MOST REPS AGREE PRIVATELY THAT ONLY PRACTICAL MEANS FOR PREPARATION OF REPORT IS TO LEAVE WORK TO EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. IN FACT, EX SEC'S REPORT TO 32ND SESSION WILL FORM BASIS FOR SUCH REPORT. CATTO

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